

TITLE 9. FAMILY LAW

Chapter 9.4

CHANGE OF NAME

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9.4.1. Jurisdiction. The Suquamish Tribal Court has the authority to change the name of any person upon that person's petition or:

(a) Upon the petition of any minor's parent(s); or

(b) Upon the petition of the Suquamish Tribal Child Welfare Department and the Presenting Officer on behalf of a minor who has been adjudicated as a youth in need of care ("YINOC") pursuant to S.T.C. §§ 8.1.12(r) and 8.1.70, provided that the Tribe has shown by clear and convincing evidence that the name change is in the YINOC's best interests; or

(c) Upon the petition of a minor's legal guardian, provided that the guardianship has been in place for three (3) or more years.

A civil filing fee is required unless waived by the Court for good cause, except in cases that are ongoing, including YINOC matters and legal guardianships.

(d) Written notice of any court hearing set to address a petition filed pursuant to (b) or (c), along with a copy of said petition, is to be served on the biological parents of the child, except those parents whose parental rights have been terminated or relinquished:

(1) In any manner of service as set forth in S.T.C. § 8.1.32, or

(2) With court approval, publication at least one (1) time in the Kitsap Sun, or in any newspaper of general circulation on or adjacent to the Port Madison Indian Reservation, or in a newspaper of general circulation in the town closest to where the biological parent was last known to reside. (Prior code Ch. V, Art. V, §1 (part); amended by Res. 2020-150, passed Sep. 28, 2020)

9.4.2. Adding Guardian's Surname. (a) A minor's legal guardian may petition the Court to add his or her surname to the minor's surname at any time following the entry of the guardianship order, provided that the Court finds that the addition of the surname is in the child's best interests.

(b) Written notice of any court hearing set to address a petition filed pursuant to (a), along with a copy of said petition, is to be served on the biological parents of the child, except those parents whose parental rights have been terminated or relinquished:

(1) In any manner of service set forth in S.T.C. § 8.1.32, or

(2) With court approval, publication at least one (1) time in the Kitsap Sun, or in any newspaper of general circulation on or adjacent to the Port Madison Indian Reservation, or in a newspaper of general circulation in the town closest to where the biological parent was last known to reside. (Res. 2020-150, passed Sep. 28, 2020)

9.4.3. Records. Any Court order issued for change of name will be kept as a permanent record, and copies will be filed with the Suquamish Tribe and the Washington State Bureau of Vital Statistics. (Prior code Ch. V, Art. V, §1 (part); renumbered and amended by Res. 2020-150, passed Sep. 28, 2020)